United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Public Affairs Washington, DC 20555 Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234 Internet:opa@nrc.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Monday, November 9, 1998)

NRC PREHEARING CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

An Atomic Safety and Licensing Board has scheduled a prehearing conference December 16 in Greenfield, Massachusetts, in a licensing proceeding concerning the decommissioning of Yankee Atomic Electric Company's nuclear power station near Rowe, Massachusetts. The Yankee facility permanently ceased operation in 1991.

The conference, which is open to the public, will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Jury Room (top floor) of the Franklin County Courthouse, 425 Main Street, Greenfield, MA. If necessary, the proceeding will continue on Thursday and Friday, December 17 and 18, beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day, at the same location.

Licensing boards frequently schedule a prehearing conference of the parties in a proceeding to consider whether a public hearing should be granted. At the forthcoming conference, the board will consider the admissibility of contentions raised by the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution, Inc. and the Citizens Awareness Network, which requested a hearing on the unfinished portion of work to be completed under the Yankee decommissioning plan. The conference will also consider petitions, if any, from interested states or governmental organizations and to the extent necessary, will consider discovery and future schedules for various aspects of the proceeding.

Written statements and requests for oral statements, should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Documents relating to this application are on file at the Local Public Document Room, located at the Greenfield Community College, 1 College Drive, Greenfield, MA 01301, as well as at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037.

Members of the Licensing Board are the following Administrative Judges from the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel: Charles Bechhoefer, Chairman; Dr. Thomas S. Elleman and Thomas D. Murphy.

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